Teaching English through Authentic Songs

Suleyman Basaran & Ibrahim Nisanci

Dicle University/Ishik University

Key words: Foreign language learning, Authentic songs, Method, Integration of four basic skills

ABSTRACT

The use of music and songs in language teaching has been widely investigated and many researchers have reported positive effects of songs on language learning. Findings of earlier research imply that it is possible to enrich students' learning experiences by using songs. However, relevant literature does not provide a clear framework for utilizing authentic songs in language classes. This paper proposes a new method of utilizing authentic English songs in a four-step framework and discusses how language learning can be facilitated with this method. The four-step framework is described and techniques under each step are verified. Proposed method is expected to provide teachers of English as a foreign language with clear-cut guidelines for utilization of authentic songs and thus enable teachers to create an enjoyable classroom atmosphere and effective language learning activities which integrate and lead to development of four basic language skills.